

Notice of a Double-headed Water-Snake. By JOHN SHORTT, M.D., F.L.S., M.R.C.P.L., &c., General Superintendent of Vaccination, Madras.

[Read March 15, 1866.]

THE accompanying woodcut represents a specimen of a water-snake caught alive in the backwater on the Eastern Coast.



I had frequently heard the natives give accounts of many-headed snakes, but, from my knowledge of the country and the reptiles of the district, I regarded them as fabulous tales, till I was presented with the specimen from which the drawing was made.

The reptile belongs to the suborder *Colubrinæ*, family *Hydrophidæ*, and is most probably a young *Hydrophis sublævis* of Gray. It measures  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, and 7 lines below the union of the double neck, and  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch at the thickest part of its body, in circumference. The heads are distinct, and forked at the union, which in the integuments seems to occur at the base of the skull, whilst the separate necks unite about an inch lower down. The eyes, nostrils, mouth, and teeth in each head are perfect, and the two mouths lead into, or terminate in, one œsophagus, below the union, passing on apparently to the abdomen.

Crown shielded; occipital shields large; nostrils surrounded by a continuous ring; pupils round; body covered with small scales; ventral shields small; body fusiform; tail compressed and sword-shaped. Head dark brown, approaching black; concolorous interrupted stripes  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch wide along the back; sides and belly yellowish white; tail ringed, black, and the extremity, to the extent of an inch, of the same dark colour around its circumference. The specimen was taken alive, and apparently in excellent health, by a native fisherman; and, from its perfection as regards its heads, it would have been interesting to know whether it fed with both its mouths. Should I be so fortunate as to succeed in procuring a second specimen, I shall be glad to re-

port the same to the Society. I hope to send the original to the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, where it may be seen by any of the Fellows curious on the subject\*.

A List of the Diurnal Lepidoptera recently collected by Mr. WHITELEY in Hakodadi (North Japan). By ARTHUR G. BUTLER, F.Z.S., Assistant, Zoological Department, British Museum. Communicated by WILLIAM CARRUTHERS, Esq., F.L.S.

[Read April 19, 1866.]

PAPILIO, *Linnaeus*.

1. PAPILIO BIANOR, *Cramer*, sp., var. Japonica †.

Papilio Bianor, *Cramer*, *Pap. Exot.* t. 103. f. c. (1776); *Fabricius*, *Ent. Syst.* iii. i. p. 1. n. 2.

Achillides Bianor, *Hübner*, *Verz. bek. Schmett.* 85 (1816).

♀ Papilio Paris, *Godart*, *Enc. M.* ix. 67. n. 116 (1819).

North India, China.

2. PAPILIO MACHAON, *Linnaeus*, sp., var. (Eastern form).

Papilio Machaon, *Linnaeus*, *Syst. Nat.* ii. 950, n. 33 (1767); *Hübner*, *Europ. Schmett. Pap.* f. 390, 391 (1806-27).

Papilio Jasoniades, Machaon, *Hübner*, *Verz. bek. Schmett.* 83 (1816).

Amaryssus, Machaon, *Dalm. Kong. Vet. Acad. Holm.* xxxvii. 85 (1816).

Papilio Sphyrus, *Hübner*, *Europ. Schmett. Pap.* f. 776, 777 (1823?).

Europe, India, Japan, North China.

PARNASSIUS, *Latreille*.

3. PARNASSIUS GLACIALIS, sp. n.

Alæ supra subhyalinæ, albæ, venis nigris: anticæ apice hyalino; cella media fasciata fasciaque brevi terminata, fasciis cinereis: posticæ margine abdominali late nigro: corpus nigrum, thorace præ ferrugineo; abdomine cinereo pilosato, a latere ferrugineo; antennæ nigræ.

Alæ subtus nitentes: posticæ margine abdominali cinereo; aliter velut supra: corpus nigrum, pilis ferrugineis sparsum.

*Alar. exp.* unc.  $2\frac{5}{8}$ - $2\frac{1}{8}$ .

This beautiful species is most closely allied to *P. Mnemosyne*, Latreille (South Europe). It differs from it in its greater size,

\* The specimen is now in the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, which was already in possession of a similar monstrosity, apparently in the same species of Snake.

† Alæ anticæ subtus latè fuscæ: posticæ caudis vix spathatis; supra macula anali minus conspicua; subtus prope marginem luteo rorata, maculis submarginalibus minus lunulatis, macula anali his haud distinguenda.